

President's Briefing CCCA Northwest Section

The 2015 National CCCA conference was outstanding as was the weather. It was great to see so many from the NW Section!

You should have received a postcard for the CCCANW Sectional coming up quickly February 29th- March 2nd. Sign up & find more information at www.cccanw.org or by calling Cannon Beach Conference Center at 800.745.1546.

I pray that you, your family and whole staff have a very Merry Christmas (with a lot less rain) and look forward to seeing each of you at Cannon Beach!

James Richey
CCCA NW President



SECTION PRESIDENT'S BRIEFING



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Your CCCA Northwest Section Newsletter

PRACTICAL TIP



Conference Rewind

Did you love a session you attended at this year's CCCA National Conference, PANORAMA? Or maybe there was one you wanted to get to but missed. Perhaps you were unable to make it to the conference this year. Good news! You can find recordings of many seminars and general sessions available for [purchase online here](#).

FRESH IDEA



Kids These Days

Adults have worried about the fashions, friends, free-time behaviors and faith of adolescents for as long as the two generations have co-existed. We worry about the same things today, and we continue to stereotype. We either demonize or idealize. But our adolescents—teenagers, youth, students, whatever you choose to call them—deserve more from us. And as Christian camp professionals, we have a unique opportunity not only to minister to youth, but to also reshape the conversation about them. How? Crystal Kirgiss, author of *In Search of Adolescence: A New Look at an Old Idea*, and CCA National Conference speaker, offers suggestions in a recent article for *InSite* magazine, including:

- Adolescents deserve to be seen and known as individuals.
- Adolescents deserve to be entrusted with responsibility.
- Adolescents deserve to be challenged and mentored.
- Adolescents deserve to be talked to and with instead of just about.
- Adolescents deserve to be loved because they are created in God's image.

Read more about how you can better reach teens in "Kids These Days" by Crystal Kirgiss from the Dec/Jan issue of *InSite*.

FAITH STORY



The Simple Truth

As the celebratory season of Jesus' birth warmly embraces us this time of year, I've been prayerfully yearning a simple, powerful desire: *Give me Jesus*.

My mind has been warped with a recent love of simplicity, and the truth is, learning the power behind it is anything but simple for my over-analytical brain to do. When one of my students falls out of her chair "accidentally" knocking over and spilling my coffee all over the place during a formal test, *Lord, Give me Jesus* (grace). When I drive to work 55 minutes late for being early, unknowingly forgetting my classroom keys and lunch but get to see the glory of His sunrise over a silent highway, *Ah, Lord, Give me Jesus* (peace). When I am constantly being pounded down by hearing unrelenting bad news day after day, *Just give me Jesus* (power).

All of these daily common circumstances are always bringing me back to the simple reality of needing Jesus, simply because of who He is. In John 14:6 Jesus tells us, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." What is the truth? The truth is Jesus. Who is Jesus? Jesus is the Son of God and the most compassionate, loving, gracious, peace-giving, powerful and faithful man who ever walked this earth. He faithfully took on our ugly sins, shameful regrets and broken pieces. He washed us clean, forgot our past and wholly put us back together on the cross that He died on. The truth is, in everything that we say and do, we are to be becoming Jesus.

Sometimes we try to dig so deeply into the Word that we miss the simplest truth: *Just get Jesus*.

By Chelsea Starr, summer staff, Whisper Mountain Camp. This blog post originally appeared on Whisper Mountain's blog and was adapted and used with permission.

FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE



Thank You for Making PANORAMA a Success

To the hundreds who joined us in Phoenix last week for the National Conference, we are grateful. What an uplifting, energizing time of fellowship and training! We hope the knowledge you gained and the connections you made will help you maximize your ministry now and in the future. We are also thankful for the many speakers, presenters, exhibitors and entertainers who helped make PANORAMA a time to remember. To read daily recaps from each day of the conference, including many of our favorite quotes from the general sessions, click the links below.

- [Tuesday](#)
- [Wednesday](#)
- [Thursday](#)

Also visit Christian Camp and Conference Association on [Facebook](#) to see pictures from PANORAMA. We'll hope you'll start planning now to attend next year's National Conference, All In—Nashville 2016! Go [here](#) for a short video about All In.

EXCELLENCE TRAINING

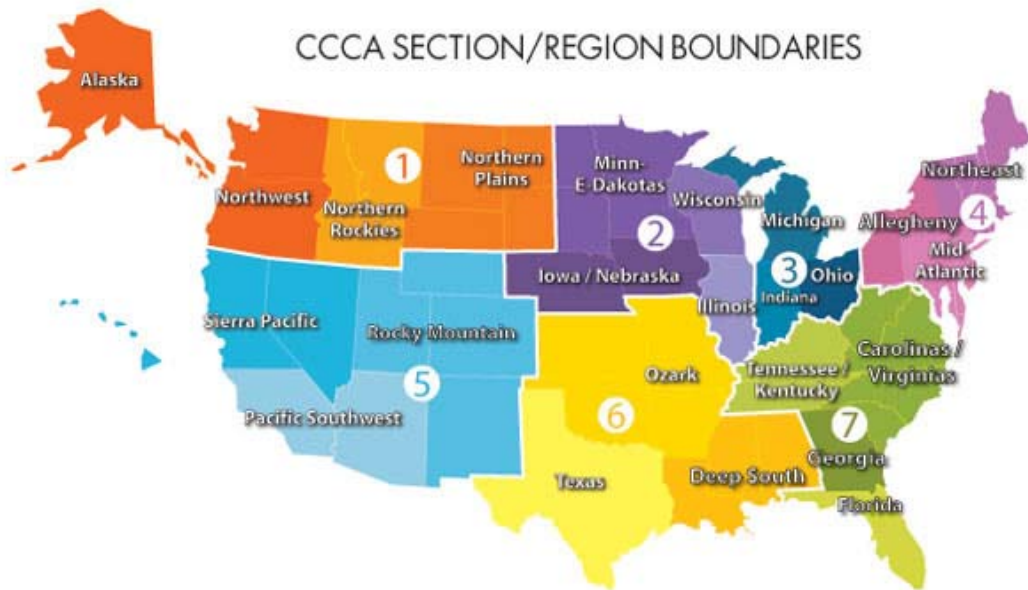
December EIT — Recording Available!


Many people, even camp directors and development directors, get weak in the knees when it comes to asking for financial contributions. Consequently, they don't realize their full potential to secure significant gifts, and they don't get to call God's people to generosity, which every Christian is called to. The latest Excellence in Training webinar, **Development: The Power of the Ask**, featured experienced nonprofit fundraiser R. Mark Dillon who covered:

- Why we need to ask
- When to ask
- How to ask
- How to follow up
- How to make strategic solicitation a powerful part of your development process

To listen in, and follow along with Mark's presentation, visit Mark's [EIT page](#) now.

2016 Sectionals



This winter and spring, Christian camping pros will gather across the U.S. for sectional conferences. Join others from your section for a time of encouragement, training and spiritual enrichment. Don't miss the sectional nearest you! Sectionals marked with  will include CamperProtect sexual abuse prevention training provided by CCCA and MinistrySafe.

Jan. 25–27: Pacific Southwest Sectional

Jan. 26–28: Mid-Atlantic Sectional 

Feb. 1–3: Minn-E-Dakotas Sectional

Feb. 2–4: Ozark Sectional

Feb. 22–24: Allegheny Sectional

Feb. 22–24: Florida Sectional

Feb. 22–25: Rocky Mountain Sectional 

Feb. 22–24: Texas Sectional

Feb. 29–March 2: Deep South Sectional

Feb. 29–March 2: Northwest Sectional

Feb. 29–March 2: Ohio/Indiana/Illinois/Tennessee/Kentucky Super Sectional

Feb. 29–March 3: Sierra Pacific Sectional 

March 1–3: Northern Rockies Sectional

March 7–9: Carolinas/Virginias Sectional

March 7–9: Michigan Sectional 

March 14–16: Northeast Sectional

March 14–17: Wisconsin/Iowa/Nebraska Super Sectional 

March 28–30: Alaska Sectional

Go to www.ccca.org/ccca/sections.asp for more information about sectional locations and registration.

December/January *InSite*

Don't miss the December/January issue of *InSite* magazine, coming soon to a mailbox near you! This issue is loaded with content on how best to work with and minister to people from each generation. We'll go beyond generational stereotypes to give you insights and tips you can put to use in your ministry and relationships.

Links We Love and Want to Share

Smartphones and apps are everywhere, even in the most remote spots on the planet. *Ensia's* "[What Does Technology Do to Our Relationship With the Environment](#)," explores the question, "Does technology enhance our relationship with nature or pull us farther away?"

Check out *The Atlantic* article "[The Nature Cure](#)" to find out about the growing field of ecotherapy why some doctors have started writing prescriptions for time outdoors.

When working with today's youth, can we—and should we—do more to encourage debate and "disagreeing well"? In *Christianity Today's* hermenutics blog post "[Offense Welcome: Please Debate this Article](#)," the author makes a case for doing just that.

When it comes how you lead, are you falling into any of these seven "integrity traps"? Read *Entrepreneur's* "[7 Mistakes Leaders Make that Drive Everyone Crazy](#)" for some good food for thought.

Do you consider yourself a mentor? Whether you are in a formal mentoring relationship or just find yourself in a position to offer advice and support to others, check out "[I'm Going to Work for You Someday: The Five Best Things My Mentor Ever Told Me](#)" from Forbes. The author shares her favorite pearls of wisdom from her mentor, and more importantly, why they were game changers.

Want to know more about CCCA and the resources it offers to members? Visit www.ccca.org, and click on the "Maximize Ministry" graphic near the top of the page, or call our friendly membership staff at (719) 260-9400.

If you no longer wish to receive Section President's Briefing, simply reply to this email with your name, camp name and request.

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